

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**  
**2010: WRITING WOMEN BACK INTO HISTORY**  
**SELECTED WOMEN OF MAUI COUNTY**



**PRESENTED BY....**

**Maui County Committee on the Status of Women**  
**Mayor Charmaine Tavares**  
**County of Maui**  
**200 South High Street**  
**Wailuku, HI 96793**

**With support from the**  
**Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women**



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## HISTORY OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

*The history of women often seems to be written with invisible ink. Even when recognized in their own times, women are often not included in the history books.*

2010 is the 30th anniversary of the National Women's History Project. President Carter issued a Presidential Proclamation declaring the week of March 8, 1980 as the first National Women's History Week. Then, in 1987, another successful lobbying effort resulted in Congress expanding the week into a month, and March is now National Women's History Month.



In the early eighties, less than 3% of the content of teacher training textbooks mentioned the contributions of women and when included, women were usually written in as mere footnotes. Women of color and women in fields such as math, science, and art were completely omitted. This limited inclusion of women's accomplishments deprived students of viable female role models. Today, when you search the Internet with the words "women's + history + month," you'll find more than 40,500,000 citations.

National Women's History Month provides an excellent venue to recognize and celebrate women's historic achievements as well as an opportunity to honor women within our families and communities.

The Maui County Committee of the Status of Women presents to you selected County women they honor to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the National Women's History Project. Their accomplishments are many, and the information presented here reflects only a snippet of their efforts to enhance the quality of life in Maui County. The women celebrated today join women honored by this Committee in the past. We see the launching of this project as a beginning. Women featured this year will be joined next and every year with others who contribute to the history of Maui in the arts, business, community organizations, cultural, educational, nonprofit, political and religious fields.



County of Maui

# Proclamation

WHEREAS, women of every race, class, and ethnic background have served in the forefront or behind the scenes of every major progressive social change movement, and;

WHEREAS, the women of Maui County were, and continue to be, vital to the establishment of charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions of our County, and;

WHEREAS, women have played a unique role throughout the history of Maui County by providing countless hours of volunteerism to better the lives of others, and;

WHEREAS, in observance of the National theme for Women's History month, "2010: Writing Women Back into History," the Maui County Committee on the Status of Women will be honoring women who have made contributions to the arts, business, community organizations, cultural, educational, nonprofit, political, and religious fields, and;

WHEREAS, the Maui County Committee on the Status of Women will hold a special reception commemorating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Women's History Month and celebrating the accomplishments of these extraordinary women of Maui County;

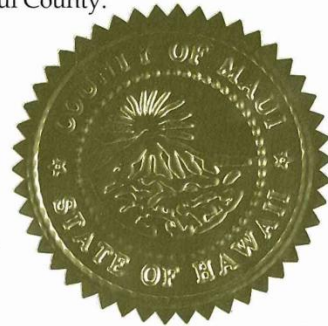
NOW THEREFORE, I, Charmaine Tavares, Mayor of the County of Maui, have the honor of proclaiming and do hereby proclaim March, 2010 as

## WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

throughout the County of Maui and urge all citizens to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments and contributions women have made in Maui County.

DONE at Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii, this  
22<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2010.

  
CHARMAINE TAVARES  
Mayor



## MAUI WOMEN OF HONOR 2010



### **CATEGORY: POLITICAL** **GOVERNOR LINDA LINGLE**

In 1976, Hawai'i's chief executive, Governor Linda Lingle, founded and began serving as publisher of the Moloka'i Free Press. She first served the people of Hawai'i in 1980 as a member of the Maui County Council, and went on to complete five two-year terms, three representing the island of Moloka'i. In 1990, she was elected Mayor of Maui County and served two full four-year terms. She is the first mayor, first woman, and first person of Jewish ancestry to be Governor.

### **CATEGORY: POLITICAL** **MAYOR CHARMAINE TAVARES**



The Honorable Mayor Charmaine Tavares has been involved in public service for over 40 years. For sixteen years, she worked with youth as a high school teacher, counselor, and athletic director, then as the program director for Maui Community College's Upward Bound program. She also was a member of the Maui County Committee on the Status of Women in the mid-1980s, State Commissioner of the Bobby Sox Association of America, and board member of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Maui. She served six years as director of the County's Department of Parks and Recreation, followed by 10 years as a member of the Maui County Council representing Upcountry Maui. The County's highly successful Play and Learn Sessions program, commonly known as PALS, was pioneered by Mayor Tavares during her tenure as the County Parks and Recreation Director. The popular PALS program has provided recreational and educational programs for thousands of children of working families over the past two decades. Mayor Tavares recognizes the vital importance of sustainability to our islands' future and remains committed to cultivating partnerships that strengthen sustainability in the areas of renewable energy, agriculture, and economic diversity. Her administration has also focused heavily on good fiscal management in order to weather the global economic meltdown, while simultaneously advancing major projects that have experienced decades of delays, including the South Maui Community Park and the Lahaina Watershed Flood Control Project. Born in Hana, Maui she is the daughter of Harriet Tavares and the late Hannibal Tavares, former Maui County Mayor and Police Captain.







**CATEGORY: EDUCATION**  
**GAIL AINSWORTH**

During Gail Ainsworth's nearly 40 years on Maui, she has been a librarian at Maui Community College, an author, a local history researcher and a women's activist. She has written Maui Remembers: A Local History, as well as about other topics such as Makawao School and David Malo. She compiled three indexes to The Maui News which have opened Maui County's history from 1900-1973. Gail has served on the boards of the Hawai'i Museums Association, the Maui Historical Society, and Makali'i (the UH Community Colleges journal), and was the Chair of the Hawai'i Council for the Humanities and the Maui Community College Faculty Senate. The Maui Historical Society twice recognized her for her contributions in the field of historic preservation education. Gail also was a founder and first president of Women Helping Women.

**CATEGORY: BUSINESS/NONPROFIT/CULTURAL**  
**JOHANNA AMORIN**

An entrepreneur, Johanna is an owner of Jobline X-Press, Inc., Tidy-Up Service, and the former Kozo Sushi Maui. Additionally, she still finds time to give back to her community. An advocate volunteer on Maui since 1974, Johanna has involved herself with communities by giving of herself as well as being a voice and decision maker for the welfare of family, friends and neighbors.

Some of her volunteer commitments include the Maui United Way, Maui Drug Court, Maui Community College, Maui American Cancer Society, Maui Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce. She also served as Chair and Member of the Maui County Planning Commission.





**CATEGORY: NONPROFIT**  
**LYNDA ARENA**

Lynda Arena is a long time resident of Maui and a graduate of the Maui Community College Nursing program. Despite battling cancer herself the past few years, she has continually put her life on the line to help others with Doctors Without Borders and another volunteer agency, first in Kenya, then Nigeria, and currently in Haiti.

**CATEGORY: CULTURAL**  
**CAROLEE ARICAYOS (AUNTIE DOLL)**

Carolee Aricayos, "Aunty Doll," was born in the Honokahua region of Maui, now known as Kapalua.

A kumu hula, she has her own halau, Pohai Ke Aloha (Surrounded With Love), as well as dances with her son Kepa's Tahitian troupe. In addition,

she teaches dances of Polynesia and ukulele through Kaunoa Senior Center, and at Kalama Heights she taught a Hawaiian Language class: What to Say After "Aloha." For twelve years, she chaired the state's King Kamehameha celebration and currently is the cultural expert for the Ka'anapali Beach Hotel's Magic Show. A true Hawaiian, she values the `aina and lives the tradition of "giving back," a concept she includes in all of her classes.





**CATEGORY: RELIGIOUS**  
**THE REV. MRS. TORAKO ARINE**

The Rev. Mrs. Torako Arine spent many years immersed in the church. She had to make it her only home to live and raise her family while her husband was sent away for his protection during the attack on Pearl Harbor. She flew to Japan to become a priestess after her beloved husband the late Masao Arine died. She then chose to make it her life blessing instead of a burden by becoming the Maui Jinsha Mission (Shinto) Minister.

**CATEGORY: POLITICAL/NONPROFIT**  
**GLADYS COELHO BAISA**

Gladys Coelho Baisa was valedictorian of her class at Maui High School, but that was only the beginning of a long and successful career. She joined Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO) in 1969 as its Fiscal Officer and in 1984, she took over the helm as its Executive Director. Over the next 21 years, she helped MEO grow into the largest non-profit organization in the health and human services field on Maui. During her tenure, she served on over 40 non-profit organizations locally, nationally, and internationally, and was president or chair of many of them. Accolades for her years of service to the community range from Rotary International's "Service Above Self Award" to the National Association of Farmworker Organizations' Lifetime Achievement Award to Governor Linda Lingle proclaiming January 14, 2006 as "Gladys Baisa" day. She retired from MEO in 2006, but her service to the community continues as a member of the Maui County Council representing the Upcountry region. In 2008, as Chair of the Planning Committee, Councilmember Baisa shepherded a bill through her Committee and the full Council to streamline the application process for bed and breakfasts and allow B&Bs in rural and agricultural zones. Councilmember Baisa currently chairs the Council's Land Use Committee. She is a dynamic woman, a fearless leader, and cares deeply about the community she serves.







**CATEGORY: COMMUNITY ORGANIZER/CULTURAL**  
**MAYLING BARBOSA**

Born and raised on Maui, MayLing Barbosa has lead community and cultural awareness through various collaborative efforts with Sacred Hearts School, Maria Lanakila Church, and her 26 years of working in resorts on Maui. She is currently the Director of Guest Experience at The Westin Ka'anapali Ocean Resort Villas. At Sacred Hearts School, she coordinated events to prepare Maui's youth to approach life with strong ethics and morals, as well as created enthusiasm on how to succeed in today's business world. As a Maui Cultural Lands, Inc. board member, she plays an integral part in restoring some of Maui's most sacred lands (Malama Honokawai Valley) and sustainability initiatives (Kaheawa Wind Farm).

**CATEGORY: EDUCATION**  
**BARBARA BARNHART**

Barbara Barnhart has volunteered full-time as a Volunteer Educational Assistant at Kalama Intermediate School for over four years even though she is a quadriplegic. She has been recognized along the way as Volunteer of the Year by the school and Adult Volunteer of the Year by the County of Maui in her quest to inspire children to work hard, never give up on themselves, and achieve their goals despite whatever obstacles may stand in their way.





**CATEGORY: ARTS/EDUCATION**  
**SUSANA BROWNE**

Susana Browne is the education director at the Maui Arts and Cultural Center (MACC), and is dedicated to ensuring that the arts are included in the education of all students in Hawaii. She works with the Hawaii Department of Education (DOE), Maui District, and represents the MACC in its partnership with the DOE in the Kennedy Center's Partners in Education program. The MACC/DOE team is one of the most successful of the 104 national partnerships between performing art centers and school districts in the country. Susana provides professional development for teachers and teaching artists and quality arts programs for students. She is also a board member of the Hawaii Arts Alliance. Susana was a teacher before working at the MACC and helped start Horizons Academy, the only independent school for children with learning disabilities on Maui.

**CATEGORY: COMMUNITY ORGANIZER**  
**JAN M. DAPITAN**

Jan Dapitan spent 30 years leading Community Work Day before retiring in 2008. During that time, she marshaled thousands of volunteers to participate in community cleanup campaigns, including Keep Hawaii Beautiful, Litter Bugs Me, and Get the Drift & Bag It. She spearheaded work to rid Maui of illegal dumpsites and coordinated a massive "Road to

Hana" cleanup that garnered a national Keep America Beautiful Award in 2007. She has also been at the forefront of the Old Maui High School restoration project. Her love for the `aina is evident in all that she does, and our island is a more beautiful place thanks to her dedication and hard work.





**CATEGORY: CULTURAL/NONPROFIT**  
**SANDY DENT**

Sandy Dent is passionate about community involvement, and has amazing stories of growing up in Lahaina during the plantation era. She relates well with Maui's mo'olelo stories and often seeks opportunities to make a difference. An employee of the Westin Maui Resort & Spa since 1990, Sandy plays an instrumental role in the resort's cultural committee, "Na Lamaku," geared towards championing the host culture. She strongly supports the "Malama Honokowai" project and continues being part of this valley restoration project in West Maui. She was also actively involved in the "Women Against Domestic Violence" program and helped establish the West Maui group. She spent many years assisting the "Reading Program" at Princess Nahi'ena'ena Elementary, being a firm believer that reading is essential to a child's development.

**CATEGORY: NONPROFIT**  
**LUCIENNE DENAIE**



Lucienne DeNaie is presently a member of the citizens advisory committee updating Maui County's General Plan, on the board of directors of the Haiku Living Legacy Project and the Maui Coastal Land Trust, and a member of the Sustainable Living Institute of Maui. She is also on the advisory committee for Maui Economic Development Board's *Focus Maui Nui* outreach project and is the Statewide Vice-Chair of the Sierra Club Hawaii Chapter. She has held leadership positions in the county, including the Mayor's Open Space Advisory Committee, the advisory committee for the Hawaiian Tourism Authority's Maui County Strategic Plan update, and the Maui Tomorrow board. She has also served as a long-time adviser to the Kaunoa Senior Center "Pacesetters" walking club and Hau'oli Kukini senior hiking group sponsored by the American Cancer Society. Recently, Lucienne co-authored a book on the history of Makena, and previously authored of a 200-page report on Maui's water sources.





**CATEGORY: NONPROFIT**  
**ROSE MARIE LINDSEY DUEY**

Rose Marie Lindsey Duey and her 'ohana invite families, school groups, and other organizations to come and learn about kalo restoration and cultivation in the hills above Olowalu. What used to be barren and desolate hills have bloomed into thriving lo'i, with flowing water surrounded by endemic plants. The lessons learned go far beyond planting kalo; all come away learning life's lessons and a new respect for the history of the area. What Rose does at Olowalu also resonates in her work at Alu Like where she helps Hawaiians to become self-sufficient through workforce development, educational support, and strengthening family values. She is Olowalu Cultural Reserve leader and Alu Like Inc. project manager.

**CATEGORY: BUSINESS**  
**TERI EDMONDS**

Teri Edmonds opened *If The Shoe Fits* five years ago when she realized the need for shoe selection for women of all shoe sizes. Weathering many economic challenges, this store has grown into a boutique that also houses *Testers Shoe Repair*. Not only does Teri utilize her keen understanding of business for her store, she is a mentor to other entrepreneurs and shares her wisdom freely. Realizing that a healthy community is what keeps Maui no ka oi, Teri is the first to give back to and volunteer with Maui's many non-profits — both on her own and through her Rotary Club.





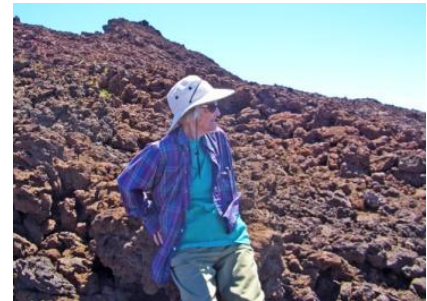
**CATEGORY: ARTS/CULTURAL**  
**JILL ENGLEDOW**

Jill Engledow has been telling Maui's stories for more than 30 years. Jill's writing history includes 17 years at *The Maui News*, where as a reporter her beat included covering many human service agencies vital to the island's social well-being today. An award-winning journalist, she is also the author or co-author of several books about Maui. Her latest book is *Island life 101: A Newcomer's Guide to Hawaii*, which aims to help newcomers to the islands understand and connect with the history, culture, and

community life of their new home. Jill is active in Ala Lani United Methodist Church and in the Rotary Club of Maui.

**CATEGORY: CULTURAL**  
**MARY EVANSON**

Mary Evanson fell in love with Haleakala as a teenager in the 1930s. Returning to Maui 30 years ago, she has made it her mission to protect the whole mountain. She raised money for park programs, fought against moving the antennas from the summit to the southwest rift, and



advocated for better programs to protect the indigenous animals of the island. She was also a litigant to require an EIS for the Hawaii Superferry, raised awareness of the miconia threat, and sponsored many lectures on resource issues. In 1999, she became an Honorary Superintendent of Haleakala National Park for Outstanding Sustained Contributions. Her current focus is on the Adopt-A-Nene project.







**CATEGORY: COMMUNITY ORGANIZER**  
**KIMBERLY FINNEY**

Kimberly Finney is the Cardiac Rehabilitation Specialist at Maui Memorial Medical Center. Kim moved to Maui in 2005 and is the coordinator and developer of the community-based health and wellness program, Malama Pu`uwai (Take Care of Your Heart). She is currently developing all phases of Cardiac Rehab for Maui. Kim is the Hawaii representative to the AACVPR and is on the Board of the American Heart Association-Maui Division. She has published an article in the *Health Ministry Journal* entitled, "To AED or Not to AED?" She is a CPR, ACLS and PALS instructor, and provides public education on many health-related topics. Kim volunteers with the Organ Donor Center of Hawaii and is the recipient of the 2006 "Community Award" from Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, both for the Maui Region and for the State of Hawaii.

**CATEGORY: ARTS/COMMUNITY ORGANIZER**  
**AURIOL N. FLAVELL**

Auriol Flavell is currently a board member of the Maui Academy of Performing Arts. She has been an active volunteer for 18 years, producing major musicals in the Maui Arts and Cultural Center's Castle Theatre. Auriol is also a volunteer and supporter of the Maui Community Theatre. She is an active supporter of scholarship and school drama programs, in particular at Baldwin High School and Seabury Hall. Auriol is a founding board member and continuing supporter of the Maui Pops Orchestra. She raises funds for beach restoration, supports Women Helping Women, and is a trained mediator.





**CATEGORY: ARTS**  
**KAREN FISCHER**

Karen Fischer is the founder and owner of Pasifika Artists Network LLC and past President/CEO of the Maui Arts & Cultural Center. In her more than 10 years at the MACC, Karen helped transform the organization. She launched its presenting program, subscription series, and accompanying artist residencies that take performers into schools and communities, ensuring that all people in Maui County have access to some of the finest performers in dance, music, world cultures, opera, and theater, from both Hawai'i and from out of state. She also brought the MACC into the modern era in areas of fundraising, computer systems, financials, personnel, and marketing. She has recently founded her own agency, representing performers of Hawai'i and the Pacific in developing bookings across North America and internationally.

**CATEGORY: COMMUNITY ORGANIZER**  
**SANDRA C. FLORENCE**

For 25 years, Sandra Florence has been active in the community. She successfully established the first fine arts foundry on Maui for artists wishing to have their original work (in wood, clay, ceramic and other mediums) cast into bronze through the 2,000 year old process known as the 'lost wax method.' From

1999 thru 2004, she took up the mantle of Chairperson of "Art Affair," the centerpiece fundraiser for the Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center in Makawao. In 2005, the Hui was sold to a third party, but Sandra became both enraged and engaged at the prospect of the community's loss and motivated the board and members of the community, as well as the State of Hawaii, to raise \$5 million to purchase property from Maui Land and Pineapple Company. In 2008, Sandra was elected to the board of directors of the Maui Memorial Hospital Foundation where she has continued her fundraising efforts.





**CATEGORY: NONPROFIT**  
**ROSE CAMBRA FREITAS**

Rose Cambra Freitas represents the best of Hawaiian cowboy or “paniolo” culture through sharing her knowledge of western lifestyle with people of all ages. She is the co-founder of the Maui All Girls and Junior Boys and Girls Rodeo Associations, Hawaii’s only incorporated non-profit organizations of its kind, and has earned the respect of community and civic leaders across Maui. Recognized as one of Maui’s 100 most influential people in the past 100 years, Rose continues to influence Maui by donating her private arena for horse shows and clinics to educate people in horsemanship.

**CATEGORY: EDUCATION**  
**JENEEN FUJIMOTO FUKUROKU**

While most people are not familiar with the Personal Transition Plan (PTP), it is an important and innovative component of high school students’ career planning. As the coordinator, Jeneen Fujimoto Fukuroku collaborates closely with her Department of Education counterparts and interfaces with college and workforce development resources to ensure that students have a pathway to follow once they graduate.





**CATEGORY: COMMUNITY ORGANIZER/EDUCATION**  
**IVY GATIUAN**

Well-respected both within her Westin `Ohana and local community, Ivy Gatiuan has flexed her style and undertaken various responsibilities to play a supportive leadership role as banquet coordinator at The Westin Maui Resort & Spa. Her calming presence has greatly eased the tension and stress in day-to-day activities. She also has a personal passion of volunteering for the Athletic Department at Lahainaluna High School, a local Maui boarding school. She is tireless in her efforts to help raise funds through various fundraisers, provide sport uniforms, and cook meals for boarding students during their practice sessions. Her passion and care for her community makes the world a better place.

**CATEGORY: NONPROFIT**  
**PEMA GILMAN**



Pema has worked tirelessly to advance the rights of battered and abused women in Maui, first as a volunteer with Women Helping Women and now as an advocate at its Lahaina facility. She has chaired the Maui Mental Health Association, partnered a high-end catering company (The Cooking Company), danced (and organized) superbly with Tara Dhatu, and grandmothered the splendid Hokuaka`ale Gilman. She is a Hakomi practitioner and a Tibetan Buddhist teacher as well.







**CATEGORY: ARTS**  
**LESLIE GRANAT**

A retired businesswoman, Leslie is a great supporter of the arts and women's issues on Maui. An artist herself, she purchases and promotes the artistic efforts of Maui's local artists. She is a supporter and fundraiser for the Maui Humane Society, has organized a Maui Chapter of the Red Hot Mamas, and works with the American Association of University Women to further the educational efforts of girls in Maui and nationally. She is a life-long supporter of advocating for women.

**CATEGORY: BUSINESS**  
**BARBARA HALINIAK**

The isolation and size of Moloka'i were never barriers to native born Barbara Haliniak—they were the key motivating factors for her drive and vision in bringing business to the island. After her 24-year career journey with GTE Hawaiian Tel in the Big City (aka Honolulu), where she worked her way from general cashier to regional regulatory administrator interfacing with the Public Utilities Commission, Barbara decided to retire, return home, and use her business-savvy talents to give back to the community that raised her. In 2001, during a time when there was little or no activity, Barbara recruited a small group of business people and resurrected the Moloka'i Chamber of Commerce. Under her leadership, the Chamber began sponsoring annual community-building events, such as the Moloka'i Food & Business Expo and community holiday programs. The Moloka'i Chamber Foundation was also created to provide leadership and vision for youth. In eight short years, the Moloka'i Chamber of Commerce has grown from 25 members to 101 members strong, and is highly regarded by community organizations and leaders throughout the State. As an advocate for Moloka'i business owners, Barbara has helped this small island community forge and cultivate a bond that will help them weather these challenging economic times.







**CATEGORY: EDUCATION**  
**DONNA HAYTKO-PAOA**

Donna Haytko-Paoa has dedicated more than 25 years as the first, and as yet, the only Moloka'i Coordinator and Instructor for Maui Community College on Moloka'i. As the only MCC faculty member overseeing services there for many years, operation of the entire program has fallen on her talent and expertise, from setting up two-year educational programs, facilitating Bachelor and Master degree operations, recruiting and advising students, grooming Moloka'i residents as instructors, staging graduations, and synchronizing with the UH Board of Regents, state and county officials, and MCC administrators on construction of the college education center on Moloka'i. Donna was the first female to lifeguard in Waikiki at a time when all the other lifeguards were local beach boys and water men. An avid paddler, Donna has raced across the Moloka'i Channel many times, in both the regular and the masters division, during the world's most prestigious outrigger canoe race Na Wahine O Ke Kai. In 2008 Donna received the prestigious Willard Wilson Award for Distinguished Service to the University of Hawai'i.

**CATEGORY: ARTS**  
**HOKULANI HOLT-PADILLA**

Hokulani Holt-Padilla, through all aspects of her community involvement, sets the standard for Hawaiian women sharing their culture through the arts. She is a Hawaiian culture and language specialist and master kumu hula, who founded her halau hula, Pa'u O Hi'iaka, and has since become a well-respected mele and chant composer. She is a co-founder of Punana Leo O Maui Hawaiian language immersion preschool and the first program coordinator of Maui's Na Pua No'eau center for gifted and talented Native Hawaiian children. She began her tenure as Cultural Programs Director at the Maui Arts and Cultural Center and in 1994, she established her own non-profit corporation called Kauahea. It is her dream to establish a Hawaiian cultural center on her ancestral land in Waiehu. In her own words, Hokulani has humbly said, "If people remember nothing else about me, I hope that they remember that I was tremendously proud to be Hawaiian and tremendously proud to be from Maui."





**CATEGORY: BUSINESS**  
**SUSANNE HOTTA**

Despite personal tragedies (her husband's fishing accident and her only son's death), Susanne Hotta raised her children well and managed to grow the family business, Gilbert's Formal Wear, over six decades. She easily remembered her customers' names and their family stories, and everyone was special to her. She outfitted generations of prom dates and weddings. In recognition of her dedication and success, she received numerous awards, including "Retailer of the Year" from the National Retailers Association in 1993, the "Mom and Pop" award from the Hawaii Main Street Association in 1995, the Mayor's Small Business Award in 2004, the Maui Japanese Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Achievement Award, and many other small business awards from both the Wailuku Community Association and the Wailuku Main Street Association. She retired and closed the business in 2009, after almost 60 years of service to the community. The corner of Market and Vineyard will never be the same!

**CATEGORY: EDUCATION/NONPROFIT**  
**NIKKI JANSSEN**



Nikki Janssen has been a volunteer volleyball coach for the past four years at Kula Elementary School, teaching elementary students the fundamentals of volleyball. She also coaches the Seabury junior varsity team and is the Parent Community Networking Center representative at Kula Elementary School. It is her positive attitude and enthusiasm that makes Nikki a woman to be celebrated. She inspires all the children she coaches — not only the naturally athletic kids, but also the kids that may need to work a little harder. She makes each one of them believe they can achieve what they set out to do. Her background as a preschool teacher enables her to bring an element of fun and accomplishment to the school, so that she easily connects with students and communicates well with parents.





**CATEGORY: NONPROFIT**  
**JUDITH KITAGAWA**

Judith Kitagawa has lived a life dedicated to helping others. She served in the health care profession on Maui for over sixty years. In recognition of her years of service, she was honored by the Maui Memorial Medical Center Foundation with the Keola Award as Medical Staff Hero in Healthcare in 2005. She is a volunteer for the American Cancer Society Reach to Recovery Program and is a member of the Maui Memorial Hospital Auxiliary. Judith has been recognized for her volunteer work at Baldwin High School and Iao Congregational Church. She also received a commendation from Governor Lingle for receiving the Keola Award.

**CATEGORY: CULTURAL**  
**PUANANI DOONG LINDSEY**

Puanani Doong Lindsey, in her own quiet way, continues the work that she and her deceased husband, Ed Lindsey, began years ago in Honokowai. With hands, shovels, and pails, they have brought life back to the land. Their grassroots organization, Maui Cultural Lands, Inc, has revived native and endemic Hawaiian plant species. Additionally, they lead the effort to restore native species on the mountainside where Kaheawa Wind Farm is located in Ma'alaea.

Future generations will have these legacy sites because of Puanani's (and Ed's) work.





**CATEGORY: EDUCATION/NONPROFIT/COMMUNITY ORGANIZER**

**PHYLLIS McOMBER**

Lana'i has all the concerns that metropolitan areas do, but with fewer people to serve on boards and committees, and Phyllis McOmber has tirelessly served on many of them. Most recently, Phyllis has applied her determination and aptitude as co-founder of the Lana'i Women's Center, where she has served as its President and Board Director for five years. Phyllis is twice-blessed as a breast cancer survivor. And the University of Hawaii is twice blessed to have her skills: first, as a professor at the UH-Manoa, and then for 11 years as the first Coordinator and Instructor at the UH Maui College on Lana'i, where she served also as Director of the Lana'i Rural Redevelopment Project from the U.S. Department of Labor. Phyllis is also a distinguished teacher, designer, and sewer of Hawaiian quilt patterns; her colorful quilt-patterned pillows grace the traditional rocking chairs on the breezeway of the Lodge at Koele.

**CATEGORY: CULTURAL/EDUCATION**  
**LILLIAN S. MAEDA**



A retired public school teacher, Lillian Maeda was named the Outstanding Elementary School teacher of Maui County in 1974 and Outstanding Retired Teacher in 2009 after 30 years of dedicating her life to the children of Maui. Throughout her life, she has been involved in various educational and cultural organizations, as President Emeritus of the Chado Urasenke Japanese tea organization and in the Japanese Cultural Society, where she received the Nihon Bunka award in 2007. She also shares her time and talents with the children of Iao Congregational Church. Lillian received recognition for her service to the faith community by the Hawaii Conference Women's Board of Missions.





**CATEGORY: NONPROFIT/BUSINESS**  
**ELAINE MALINA**

Few on Maui have achieved the stance in the male-dominated field of climbing and trimming trees, as has Elaine Malina. Earning the challenging credential of Certified Arborist, Elaine leads the crew at the Maui Tropical Plantation that not only maintains the lush grounds of the 60-acre property but also operates the working plantation and tree nursery growing local fruits for sale in the gift shop and to local consumers. Elaine enervated the Maui Association of Landscape Professionals while serving as its President, staging, for example, a garden fair at the Ka'ahumanu Shopping Center, a convention for the International Society of Arborists–Western Division at a Wailea hotel, and organizing volunteer tree trimming for the shower trees along Baldwin Avenue. Appointed by the Mayor to the Maui County Arborist Committee, Elaine stepped easily into the leadership role as its Chair, all the while serving as caregiver to her live-in aging mother.

**CATEGORY: COMMUNITY ORGANIZER**  
**MAGGIE MASICAMPO**

Maggie Masicampo is an all-around community person. She creates a loving and nurturing environment at the Senior Center on Lana'i. For every occasion, she herself cooks the entire meal and dessert and makes centerpieces. Maggie takes scraps of materials, little pieces of foam and other things that we would throw away and uses them to create cute centerpieces, cards, and other items. When you see her finished product, you know she put a lot of love into it and you cannot even tell it began as scraps of something else. She not only takes care of the seniors but she also helps out all over the community, from table cloths to floral arrangements. Maggie is a very resourceful lady and goes above and beyond to help anybody that calls or walks through the Senior Center door. She will always put others and serve others before herself.







**CATEGORY: POLITICAL**  
**PATSY TAKEMOTO MINK (DECEASED)**

On January 3, 1965, Patsy Takemoto Mink became the first Japanese American woman and the first woman of color to be elected to the United States Congress. Breaking new ground for women and ethnic groups, though, was nothing new for her. The road to Congress was paved with many firsts, such as being elected the first female class president in her high school and being the first Japanese American woman to

practice law in Hawaii. Mink's dedication to helping others has resulted in legislative reforms in health care, education, women's rights, civil rights, conservation, employment and environmental affairs. While in Congress, she was noted for authoring the Title IX Amendment of the Higher Education Act. Mink won her last election after her death in 2002. She was also the first woman elected to Congress from the State of Hawaii, and became the first Asian American to seek the Presidential nomination of the Democratic Party in the 1972 election, where she stood in the Oregon primary as an anti-war candidate. She ran for president in order to make Americans consider the possibility of a woman president. In recognition of her contributions towards equal rights in the country, Congress named the Title IX Amendment of the Higher Education Act the "Patsy T. Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act."

**CATEGORY: EDUCATION**  
**DR. DEBRA AGUINALDO NAKAMA**



Debbie Nakama is the Articulation Coordinator and a visionary leader at Maui Community College whose professional experience bridges the Department of Education and the University of Hawaii. Debbie is also an advisor to Kabatak, the Filipino student organization on campus, and has travelled to the Philippines to establish educational partnerships with UH-Maui College. She is an important role model for young Filipino women to aspire to educational leadership roles and is an example of a successful product of the public school system herself.





**CATEGORY: COMMUNITY ORGANIZER**  
**HELEN NIELSEN**

A founding member of the Maui Coastal Land Trust and member of the board for ten years, the past three as president, Helen Nielsen has played a crucial role in placing 15,000 acres of significant environmental and cultural resources into protection in perpetuity. Helen is currently working on strengthening the land trust movement throughout the State. Living a sustainable lifestyle before it was the popular concept it is today, this back-yard gardening, off-the-grid-living, bee-hive raising community member walks the talk. Helen's resume of community involvement and interests are extensive and varied — from the Maui Democratic Party and the Disaster Medical Assistance Team Hawaii to ham-radio operator, pilot, world traveler and artist — filling more space than is allotted in this application. Consequently, we recommend Helen Nielsen for this prestigious recognition, as she makes a positive difference every day.

**CATEGORY: EDUCATION**  
**WALLETTE GARCIA PELLEGRINO**



Wallette Garcia Pellegrino has served in multiple roles that directly resulted in the expansion of educational and employment opportunities for thousands of individuals of all ages, ethnicities, and walks of life on Maui. She started as a Juvenile Counselor with the County of Maui and later as an educator and counselor at Maui High School. In the early 1990s, Wallette began her tenure at Maui Community College and served the students and the community as the Cooperative Education Program Coordinator. Wallette strongly believed in going the extra mile for non-traditional students and worked closely with the business community. This led her to her current involvement in the Maui Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce. When Wallette retired from Maui Community College she began working on a regular basis with her `ohana's farm, Noho'ana Farm. This venture has given the `ohana an opportunity to be one with the land and advance a sustainable lifestyle, significantly influenced by her Native Hawaiian culture. Wallette also was an early member of the Maui County Committee on the Status of Women. In 1977, she co-chaired Maui's first women's conference, attended by more than 600 women.





**CATEGORY: COMMUNITY ORGANIZER**  
**KAREN PETERSON**

President of *Giving Back Maui*, Karen Peterson is the driving force behind the Giving Back Fall Prevention Project, which her organization has facilitated at various senior centers and church sites over the past several years. In 2009 she was recognized by Mutual of America as a Merit Finalist Award Winner 2009 in its community awards program.

**CATEGORY: ARTS/CULTURAL/EDUCATION**  
**JACKIE PIAS CARLIN**

Observing Maui since 1949, Jackie Pias Carlin immortalized the Filipino neighborhood of her childhood in Paia in her autobiography, *Spirit of the Village: A Maui Memoir*, now in its second printing. Since 1978, she has participated in the Maui Community Theater, Maui Academy of Performing Arts, Art Maui, and Hawaii Craftsmen. She

also served as Maui board member of the Hawaii Council on Humanities, Vice President of the Maui Historical Society, and chair of the Maui County Cultural Resources Commission. Presently, she encourages memoir writing at Kaunoa Senior Center as a way to preserve Maui's history. Two pamphlets entitled, *Where Were You During WWII?* are in print by Kaunoa writers.





**CATEGORY: BUSINESS**

**ANNA RIBUCAN**

Anna Ribucan has been in business on Maui for over 30 years. After selling a successful Home Care agency, Anna headed up Maui Community College's Center for Entrepreneurship for two years before becoming Maui County's Small Business Advocate in 2004. In 2006, she was named the Small Business Administration's Women in Business Champion for Maui. In 2004, she started Grants Central Station, a non-profit to help support and educate other non-profits in Hawai'i. Anna manages the Maui County Business Resource Center, where she shares what she has learned with entrepreneurs starting and growing their business. She is also responsible for the Mayor's Small Business Awards and the Sister Cities program. Anna is active in her church and helps members to find employment.

**CATEGORY: COMMUNITY ORGANIZER/EDUCATOR**

**ROSEMARY S. ROBBINS**

Rosemary Robbins has been an effective Community Organizer for the Upcountry Maui area for many years, having served on the Upcountry Water Oversight Advisory Committee, testified at numerous Council meetings, and served as a history educator in Maui's public schools. She was born and schooled on the East Coast and contributed much to her community during that time. Rosemary also serves on the Aging with Aloha Coalition on Maui.





**CATEGORY: COMMUNITY ORGANIZER**  
**ADELE RUGG**

Adele Rugg is a tireless volunteer who has helped people all her life. She is a member of 'pink paddlers' and in October 2009 paddled around the Island of Lana'i to raise funds for the Pacific Cancer Foundation. She is a trained member of a team that assists breast cancer survivors during their recovery process.

She represents Maui County at the state level for the Alzheimer's Association, is immediate past president of the Maui Choral Arts Association, is a "Queen Diva Dell-Luscious" in the Red Hot Mamas of Maui, distinguished past president of the Kiwanis Club of Kahului, and still finds time to volunteer with the Maui Nurses Scholarship Foundation and the Maui Arts and Cultural Center.

**CATEGORY: RELIGIOUS**  
**KAHU LEI'OHU RYDER**

As the spiritual leader of Kukuipuka Heiau (at the boundary of Wailuku and Ka'anapali), Kahu Lei'ohu Ryder rediscovered the heiau in 1995 and began the long restoration process. Formerly a social studies teacher at 'Iao School, she has been an inspirational teacher to many of Maui's young leaders. She has also excelled in music,

Hawaiian protocol and practices, and genealogy. Her work at

Kukuipuka has provided diverse groups with a place for special gatherings such as prayers for world peace, lessons in slack-key

guitar, and la'au lapa'au. People can also come together there to ho'oponopono and make things right within themselves.







**CATEGORY: CULTURAL**  
**EVELYN SANO**

Evelyn Sano taught business, including shorthand and word processing at Maui Community College from 1964 to 1985. Then she began teaching ikebana flower arranging from 1985 until the last few years through adult education. She is beloved by many students over the years and has been very active in the Valley Isle Fellowship (Baptist) church, doing floral displays for weekly services there. She also does floral arrangements for weddings as well as weekly displays for the Class Act Restaurant at the college. She has contributed her time and talent to numerous benefits such as the Christmas Home Tour for Planned Parenthood.

**CATEGORY: POLITICAL AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZER**  
**VELMA McWAYNE SANTOS (DECEASED)**

Velma McWayne Santos co-chaired the first County-wide Women's Conference in 1977. Her strong leadership as the deputy director of the County Department of Human Concerns, her eventual membership on the County Council, and her involvement in women's issues portended the positive changing roles of women in Maui County. Velma was also the mainstay of the Wai-Kahu Business and Professional Women's organization for many years.





# **CATEGORY: CULTURAL**

## **EMMA KAPIOLANI FARDEN SHARPE (DECEASED)**

Born in 1904 and died 1991, Emma Kapiolani Farden Sharpe was a dancer, chanter, teacher, and composer of Hula O Pakipika, Nani `Ulupalakua, and other songs.

She was a well-known hula performer and best-beloved Kumu Hula on Maui. Her contribution, for which she is widely recognized, is the Hawaiian Cultural Festival, more commonly referred to as the Na Mele O Maui. She had a passion for Hawaiian culture, which led her to study alongside Kauhai Likua, a dancer of King Kalakaua's Court, and Iolani Luahine, one of Hawaii's most famous kumu hula. She made Hula come alive, clearly showing the delight in sharing what she loved.

# **CATEGORY: NONPROFIT**

## **LEE STEIN**



Lee Stein is an Assistant Professor of Human Services at Maui Community College. Lee was inspired by her parents who were engaged in the Civil and Women's Rights movements of the 1940-1960s. In 1983, after a year working as a victim advocate at Maui's Women Helping Women shelter, Lee founded the Alternatives to Violence program, providing services for perpetrators and victims of domestic violence on Maui; soon services expanded to Moloka'i and Lana'i. Lee was also the executive director of Malama Family

Recovery Services. Lee received a place in the "Circle of Women" award by the Maui County Committee on the Status of Women. She received the National Association of Social Work Hawaii Chapter "Social Worker of the Year Award in Mental Health and Substance Abuse." Lee also received the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents' Medal for Excellence in Teaching. Lee was named as a Maui County Centennial Honoree, one of one hundred individuals honored for community contributions in the last century, related to her domestic violence work.





**CATEGORY: BUSINESS/NONPROFIT**  
**FLORENCE UEOKA**

Florence Ueoka is a trailblazer! She has paved the way for women in the workforce. When she entered the workforce, laws for equal pay, maternity leave, and other policy protections were non-existent. The mother of four held a respected administrative position within the County of Maui, and although her position would be classified as a traditional female job, her contributions to elevating the standards for working women were anything but traditional. She joined the Maui Business and Professional Women in the mid-1950s as a way to escape the societal expectations of the day and to network with other like-minded women. She was quickly looked to for leadership on the local, state and national levels. The year she was Hawaii state BPW president, she put Hawaii on the map by sweeping all national award categories. Her unparalleled diplomacy and advocacy skills have contributed to Hawaii's ERA, pay equity, family leave, and violence prevention laws among many. Perhaps her most significant contribution is her unassuming, behind the scenes mentoring of the next generations of women who will carry on her legacy for decades to come. We all stand on her shoulders.

**CATEGORY: BUSINESS**  
**ANN WAKAMATSU**

Ann Wakamatsu epitomizes the bumper sticker "Live Aloha." She introduces everybody to everybody else, and pitches in wherever needed, whenever asked. Early in her marriage, before she had any children, she was a den mother for the Boy Scouts. And she was the only female member at Boy Scout council meetings. She suggested and organized a Teen Canteen providing music and refreshments. She volunteered with the Maui Community Arts Council and the Philharmonic Board (no longer active). She served on the Finance

Committee of the Cameron Center, was a Trustee for the Bailey House Museum, and worked on the organizing committee for the Maui Arts and Cultural Center. She has been active in the Wailuku Union Church and has been a strong supporter of the 442 war memorial, following her beloved brother's death in WWII. After her husband Kanji retired from his banking position, she helped him as he took over management of the Wakamatsu Fish Market.





**CATEGORY: COMMUNITY ORGANIZER/NONPROFIT**  
**LESLIE WILKINS**

Leslie Wilkins joined Maui Economic Development Board, Inc. (MEDB) in 1999 to launch its Women in Technology Project, and in June 2000 she was elected to the position of Vice President. Leslie continues to direct the Women in Technology Project which has grown from a Maui pilot to a national demonstration project funded in part by the U.S. Departments of Labor, Education and Agriculture. The program serves more than 7,500 students, teachers, and industry members statewide each year. The program received a 2005 International Economic Development Council multi-year performance award. Ms. Wilkins is an advocate for women in business, workplace equity, and economic development opportunities. She has served in state and national leadership roles with the Business & Professional Women's Organization (BPW/USA) for more than two decades, including as national president and foundation chair in 2001-2002. She was appointed by the governor for two terms on the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women and served as its chair from 1996 – 2003. She currently serves as a board member of the Hawaii Women's Fund and as a national trustee of the Business and Professional Women's Foundation.



# WOMEN'S HISTORY FACTS...

## SEE WHAT YOU KNOW!

### TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF WOMEN'S HISTORY



1. Who founded Bethune-Cookman College, established the National Council of Negro Women, and served as an advisor on minority affairs to President Franklin D. Roosevelt?
2. What woman was the first African-American woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature?
3. What Black woman refused to give up her seat to a White man, in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955, thus sparking the civil rights movement of the following decade?
4. Who was the first woman to run for President of the United States (1872)?
5. Who opened up social work as a profession for women, and also won the 1931 Nobel Peace Prize for her anti-war organizing work?
6. Which Mexican-American woman has repeatedly been the leading money winner in the Ladies Professional Golf Association?
7. Who was the first woman Poet Laureate of the United States?
8. Who was the first "First Lady" to have developed her own political and media identity?
9. Who wrote the first version of the Equal Rights Amendment, in 1923?
10. Who was the first Black woman elected to Congress?





11. What leading suffragist was arrested and convicted of attempting to vote in the 1872 election?
12. Who was the first Chinese-American woman ever elected to hold a statewide office in the United States?
13. What journalist traveled around the world in 72 days in 1890?
14. What woman was turned down by 29 medical schools before being accepted as a student, graduated at the head of her class, and became the first licensed woman doctor in the U.S.?
15. What former slave was a powerful speaker for the rights of women and Black people?
16. When was the Equal Rights Amendment first introduced into Congress?
17. Who was the last queen of the Hawaiian Islands, deposed because American business interests wanted to annex Hawaii to the U.S.?
18. Which woman was banished from the Massachusetts Bay Colony for holding religious discussion meetings in her home?
19. Who spoke out for the advancement of American Indians' rights from speaker's platforms nationwide and before Congressional committees in the 1880s?
20. Who drove a stagecoach across the roughest part of the West without anyone knowing until she died that she was a woman?
21. Who was the first Hispanic woman to serve as U.S. Treasurer?
22. Who was the Shoshone Indian woman who served as guide and interpreter on the Lewis and Clark expedition?
23. Who was Chair of the Board and publisher of The Washington Post and Newsweek magazine, and also oversaw six broadcasting stations?
24. About 20,000 women shirtwaist workers staged a strike for better working conditions. Their action was called the "Uprising of the 20,000." When and where did his strike occur?
25. When did officials of Little League Baseball announce that they would "defer to the changing social climate" and let girls play on their teams?
26. As vice president of the United Farm Workers, what woman has been vital in speaking for civil and economic rights for farm workers throughout the U.S.?
27. When did Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 go into effect, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex in federally funded school programs and activities?
28. What woman was invited to teach nuclear physics at Princeton University, even though no female students were allowed to study there?



29. What woman served as a “conductor” on the Underground Railroad, freeing hundreds of southern slaves and leading them to safety in the North? A \$40,000 reward was offered for her capture.
30. What woman is credited with helping free more than 2,000 Chinese women and children smuggled into San Francisco to be sold as slaves?
31. Who was the first African-American woman poet to have her works published?

### **Answers**

1. Mary McLeod Bethune (1875–1955)
2. Toni Morrison (b. 1931)
3. Rosa Parks (1920–2005)
4. Victoria Woodhull (1838-1927)
5. Jane Addams (1860-1935)
6. Nancy Lopez (b. 1957)
7. Rita Dove (b. 1952)
8. Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962)
9. Alice Paul (1885-1977)
10. Shirley Chisholm (1924–2005)
11. Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906)
12. March Fong Eu (b. 1929)
13. Nellie Bly (1867-1922), real name Elizabeth Cochrane Seaman
14. Elizabeth Blackwell (1821-1910)
15. Sojourner Truth (c. 1797-1883)
16. 1923
17. Queen Liliuokalani (1838-1917)
18. Anne Hutchinson (1591-1643)
19. Sarah Winnemucca (1844-1891)
20. Charlie Parkhurst (1812–1879)
21. Romana Bañuelos (b. 1925)
22. Sacajawea (c. 1786-1812)
23. Katherine Graham (b. 1917-2001)
24. 1909, New York City
25. 1974
26. Dolores Huerta (b. 1930)
27. 1976
28. Chien-Shiung Wu (1912-1997)
29. Harriet Tubman (c. 1820-1913)
30. Donaldina Cameron (1869-1968)
31. Phillis Wheatley (1753-1784)



## SOME WOMEN WITH FAMOUS FIRSTS

Virginia Dare was the first female born in the United States in 1587. Although it was not an official country yet, it was in its colonization stages. She was born on Sir Walter Raleigh's Roanoke Island settlement to two parents who came over from England. Although her fate is unknown, President Franklin D. Roosevelt approved a stamp to commemorate her honor in 1937 – the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her birth.

In 1766, Mary Katherine Goddard was the first woman publisher in the United States. Her newspaper, the Providence Gazette, was a widely-read publication regularly put together by her and her mother. She was also the first printer in the nation to offer copies of the Declaration of Independence to the public with the complete list of people who signed it along with their signatures.

Elizabeth Blackwell, an abolitionist and activist for women's rights, became the first woman to earn a medical degree in the United States. She also graduated at the top of her class from the Medical Institute at Geneva, New York. Since hospitals and medical establishments in the United States refused to hire her at the time, she opened up her own medical clinic that she operated with her sister, Emily.

In 1867, the Cigar Maker's Union becomes the first union to accept women and African American members.

In 1870, Arbella Mansfield of Iowa was the first woman admitted to the bar.

In 1871, Frances Elizabeth Willard becomes president of Evanston College, making her the first female president of a college.

As far back as 1872, Victoria Woodhull became the first woman to run for the office of President of the United States. Her party – the National Radical Reformers – was an organization dedicated to women's suffrage and equal rights for women in the United States and beyond.

In 1917, sharpshooter and former star of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, Annie Oakley, tours WWI Army camps, giving lessons to the soldiers.



Also in 1917, Loretta Walsh becomes the first Yeoman in the United States Navy.

In 1941, Annie G. Fox, who died in the attack on Pearl Harbor, becomes the first woman to receive the Purple Heart.

In 1951, Lillian Vernon becomes the first woman to found a company that is traded on a stock exchange.

In 1965, Patsy Mink is the first Japanese-American woman to be elected to Congress.

In 1967, disguising herself in a baseball cap and applying under the name "K. Switzer," Katherine Switzer becomes the first woman to run the Boston Marathon.

The list of accomplishments made by women could go on forever. In recent years, though, the nation has tried to make up for lost time by creating many resources that celebrate women's history. Not only is the entire month of March set aside to recognize the accomplishments and pioneering endeavors made by women, but there is also the National Museum of Women's History, a place where visitors can see exhibits that bring those historical moments to life.

The Maui County Committee on the Status of Women thanks the National Women's History Project ([www.nwhp.org](http://www.nwhp.org)) for being an invaluable resource for information cited in this publication.



# NOTES





# MAUI COUNTY COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

The Maui County Committee on the Status of Women was established by state statute in 1970:

§367-4 County committees on status of women, membership, organization, etc. The mayor of each county appoints a county committee on the status of women charged with the duty and responsibility of developing information as the state commission on the status of women requires or as the committee deems advisable concerning the status of women within the respective counties; and other appropriate duties and responsibilities as may be deemed necessary by each county. This committee also submits to the State Commission plans and proposals affecting the status of women in the County. Endeavors to secure the widest possible citizen participation in its efforts and may utilize existing public or private organizations.

## HAWAII STATE COMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN

Hawaii State Commission on Status of Women (HSCSW) works for equality for women and girls in the state by acting as a catalyst for positive change through advocacy, education, collaboration and program development.

The legislature and the Governor issued an executive order on May 15, 1964 to establish the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women in order to service the needs of the women of this State and establish a continuing body to aid in the implementation of its legislative recommendation, and to develop long-range goals, and coordinate research planning, programming, and action on the opportunities, needs, problems, and contributions of women in Hawaii.

The commission consists of an Executive Director and a Board of Directors providing representatives from all Islands of Hawaii to ensure complete representation for all women in the State of Hawaii. Currently, the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women has established a list of eight *priorities* for the Commission: (1) economic self-sufficiency; (2) improve women's health; (3) political participation—work to increase women's political involvement and activism; (4) clearing house for women's information & statistics, working to communicate women's issues and concerns in the community; (5) lobby for legislation that supports the mission and direction of HSCSW; (6) liaison with women's groups; (7) parity/equity of government services and support for women; and (8) women's safety.



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